

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the Claims as follows:

SUB B17

1. (currently amended) A method for providing a recommendation list from a plurality of items, comprising the steps of ~~executed~~ executing in a data processing system:

specifying a an adaptable constraint filter, using constraint forming rules, to select ones of the items satisfying a constraint;

selecting the ones of the plurality of items that satisfy the constraint filter;

computing predicted values based on a recommendation filter, for the selected ones of the items; and

appending the selected ones of the items meeting predetermined criteria to the recommendation list.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein appending selected ones of the items further includes

appending the selected ones of the items to the recommendation list when the predicted value exceeds a predetermined number.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein appending selected ones of the items further includes appending a predetermined number of items to the list.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the ones of the items that ~~are restricted~~ satisfy the constraint filter further includes applying a constraint containing free variables to the ones of the items.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the ones of the items that ~~are restricted~~ satisfy the constraint filter further includes applying a constraint containing bound expressions.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the ones of the items that ~~are restricted~~ satisfy the constraint filter further includes applying a boolean constraint filter.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the ones of the items that ~~are restricted~~ satisfy the constraint filter further includes applying a constraint to the ones of the items ~~item~~, wherein the constraint signifies equality.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the ones of the items that ~~restricted~~ satisfy the constraint filter further includes applying a constraint to the ones of the items, wherein the constraint signifies category membership.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein computing the predicted value further includes evaluating the selected ones of the items with collaborative filtering.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
truncating the recommendation list when a predetermined number of the selected ones of the items on the recommendation list has been met.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein selecting the ones of the items that ~~are restricted by~~ satisfy the constraint filter further includes obtaining data from a user; and

adding the data to the constraint filter.

A1
12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein specifying a constraint filter further includes
obtaining the constraint from an operator; and
storing the constraint filter in memory.

13-15 (withdrawn)

SUB B27
16. (currently amended) An apparatus designed to provide a recommendation list from a plurality of items in a data processing system, comprising:
a processing component configured to process instructions for:
applying a constraint filter to ones of the items;
applying a recommendation filter to ones of the items, and
determining an order of the filters to apply to the plurality of the items; and
a recommender component configured to append ~~the filtered ones~~ of the selected items to a recommendation list based on the constraint filter and the recommendation filter.

A2
17. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component computes predicted values ~~base~~ based on the recommendation filter.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component further
determines the order of the filters to apply to the plurality of the items based on the cost of the filters;

applies the constraint filter first when it is determined that the cost of the constraint filter is lower than the cost of the recommendation filter; and

applies the recommendation filter first when it is determined that the cost of the recommendation filter is lower than the cost of the constraint filter.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component applies a constraint filter on a boolean constraint containing free variables.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component applies a constraint filter containing bound expressions.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component applies a constraint filter based on a boolean constraint.

22. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component applies a constraint filter that signifies category membership.

23. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component applies a constraint filter that signifies equality.

24. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component computes predicted values by evaluating each ones of the items with collaborative filtering.

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the recommender component is further configured to truncate the recommendation list when a

predetermined number of the ones of the items on the recommendation list has been met.

26. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising an input component configured to:

obtain the constraint from an operator; and
store the constraint filter in a memory.

A2
27. (original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising an input component configured to:

obtain data from a user; and
add the data to the constraint filter.

SUB B37

A3
28. (new) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the processing component is further configured to adaptively specify the constraint filter, using a set of constraint-forming rules.